



FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Jessica Fitzwater
County Executive

SB 0469 - Task Force to Study Solar Tax Incentives

DATE: February 21, 2023
COMMITTEE: Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
POSITION: Favorable
FROM: The Office of Frederick County Executive Jessica Fitzwater

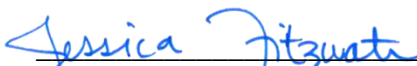
As the County Executive of Frederick County, I urge the committee to give **SB 0469 - Task Force to Study Solar Tax Incentives** a favorable report.

This bill would establish a Task Force to Study Solar Tax Incentives and make recommendations regarding a tax strategy that is more competitive than the State's current strategy.

As our communities work to balance the need to shift to renewable energy as a way to mitigate climate change with the need to conserve farmland, forest land, and open space, tax incentives can be an effective tool. Maryland has a long history of using financial incentives to stimulate the clean energy industry and make commercial and residential solar more financially attractive. As the landscape of this industry changes and we continue moving towards our Renewable Portfolio Standard goals, it is imperative that we make the most out of our tax strategy.

SB 0469 is an important step towards strengthening this tool. As the County Executive of Frederick County, where balancing clean energy production and conservation is particularly important to my constituents, I commend the sponsor for enumerating a balanced list of members for the proposed Task Force. I believe it is crucially important that local leaders contribute to this conversation and the allocation of membership to both the Maryland Association of Counties and the Maryland Municipal League ensures that local voices will be at the table.

Thank you for your consideration of SB 0469. I urge the committee to give SB 0469 a favorable report.



Jessica Fitzwater, County Executive
Frederick County, MD